



COPS Fact Sheet

Community Oriented Policing Services

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COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000

Background

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000 (TRGP2000) is one of several grant programs developed by the U.S. Department of Justice under the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (VCCA). The COPS Office will attempt to meet the most serious needs of law enforcement in Indian communities through a broadened, comprehensive hiring program that will offer a "menu of options" from salary and benefits for new police personnel to funding for law enforcement training and equipment for new and existing officers. This \$40 million program focuses on tribal communities, many of which have limited resources and are affected by high rates of crime and violence, and is meant to enhance law enforcement infrastructures and community policing efforts in these communities.

Funding Provisions

Grant requests should reflect a department's most serious law enforcement needs and must be linked to the implementation or enhancement of community policing. Funding provisions under the Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000 will include three years of salary and benefits for new police officers as well as funding for law enforcement training and basic standard issue equipment, ranging from bullet-proof vests and uniforms, to firearms, portable radios and funding for background investigations. Funds are also available for law enforcement training and equipment for existing officers depending on the needs of the department and the availability of funding. Training will include basic and specialized police training at a state academy or the Indian Police Academy in Artesia, N.M., as well as community policing, grants management, and computer training. Departments may also request funding for other types of department-wide law enforcement equipment and technology

such as police vehicles, computer hardware and software, mobile data terminals, and dispatch and communication systems. Each section of the "menu of options" will contain a cap on the amount of funding that may be requested under a particular category. Tribes are encouraged to request equipment that will increase their ability to collect crime data.

The Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000 will cover a maximum Federal share of 75 percent of total project costs, including approved salary and benefits of entry-level police officers (up to a maximum of \$75,000 per officer over 3 years), basic law enforcement training and equipment, vehicles, and technology. A local match requirement of 25 percent of total project costs is included in this program. A waiver of the local match requirement may be requested under TRGP2000, but will be granted only on the basis of a documented demonstration of fiscal hardship. Requests for waivers must be submitted with the application.

Initiative to Improve Law Enforcement in Tribal Communities

The Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000 is part of a larger Federal initiative: for the last three years, the Departments of Interior and Justice have worked in collaboration to improve law enforcement in tribal communities. For FY2000, a total of \$91.5 million has been appropriated to several DOJ agencies including the FBI, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), the Corrections Program Office (CPO), and the COPS Office. COPS is coordinating with these agencies as well as with the Office of Law Enforcement Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to ensure that limited resources are not spent on duplicative efforts.

Eligibility

All Federally Recognized Tribes with established police departments are eligible to apply. Tribes that wish to establish police departments and meet specific criteria are eligible to apply. Tribes or villages that wish to initiate a law enforcement effort may also apply as a consortium with a written partnership agreement that names a lead agency and describes how requested resources (law enforcement positions, training, and/or equipment) will serve the consortium's population. In addition, tribes that are currently served by Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) law enforcement may request funding under TRGP2000 to supplement their existing police services. However, tribes whose law enforcement services are provided by local non-tribal policing agencies through a contract arrangement are not eligible under this COPS program. Tribes that do not meet the eligibility requirements under this program may apply to the COPS Office Universal Hiring Program for police officer positions only. Receiving an award under the Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000 will not preclude grantees from future consideration under other COPS Office grant programs for which they are eligible.

Requirements

Federal regulations require that financial assistance provided by the Federal government be monitored to ensure that funds are used properly. In addition to the retention requirement that applies to all COPS grant programs, supplanting is prohibited under this program. This means that any use of TRGP2000 funds must be in addition to, and not in lieu of, previous funding commitments for law enforcement staffing, training, and/or

equipment. Monitoring efforts by the COPS Office may involve, but are not limited to site visits, telephone calls, and training conferences. Reporting requirements under this program will include the submission of quarterly financial status reports and program reports that track grantee progress on an annual basis. In addition, all applicants requesting officer positions will be required to submit a written plan to retain their COPS-funded officer positions after Federal funding has ended. This plans must be submitted to the COPS Office with the TRGP2000 application.

Deadlines

Application kits will be sent to all Federally Recognized Tribes with existing law enforcement departments by early March. Tribes or villages that wish to apply as a consortium or start-up department may request an application kit from the COPS Office. Completed applications must be submitted to the COPS Office, postmarked no later than May 5, 2000. Faxes will not be accepted.

For more information about the Tribal Resources Grant Program 2000 or any of the other programs available under the FY2000 Initiative for tribal communities, contact the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6770 or visit the COPS Office Web-Site: www.usdoj.gov/cops/.

